



## ***Historical Artifacts***



Part of the mission of Fauquier County Parks and Recreation is to preserve local history. To that end, the Department maintains a repository of artifacts relating to county history from prehistoric times to the present day. The number of artifacts increases on a regular basis, as new collections are acquired through donation, loan, or purchase, and as new archaeological surveys are undertaken in the county.

There are currently over 6272 artifacts ranging in size from prehistoric stone flakes that measure several millimeters on a side, up to an actual caboose. The artifacts are made of many materials, including glass, metal, minerals, ceramics, film, plastic, paper, wood, fiber, and leather, and were used in activities such as hunting, mining, construction, transportation, agriculture, military, and domestic life. At present there are 984 artifacts on display at several Parks and Recreation sites, including School House #18, the Warrenton Greenway Caboose and Shanty, and the Gold Mining Camp at Monroe Park. Another 4789 are stored, protected, and preserved in a facility in which environmental factors are maintained at acceptable levels for museum collections. There are an additional 435 artifacts awaiting transition to the storage facility. It is hoped to one day allow internet access to the artifacts, via museum collection management software containing detailed information and photographs.

